Free PANRE Practice Exam Questions and Answers

Maintaining your PA-C certification requires staying current with core medical knowledge, and the **Physician Assistant National Recertifying Examination (PANRE®)** is designed to assess exactly that. Unlike specialty-specific assessments, the PANRE evaluates your ability to diagnose, manage, and treat patients across multiple medical disciplines, including internal medicine, emergency medicine, pediatrics, surgery, women's health, psychiatry, and more. Candidates may choose the traditional PANRE exam or the longitudinal assessment option (PANRE-LA), both of which are based on the same core content blueprint.

The free PANRE practice questions below are designed to help you review high-yield clinical concepts while becoming familiar with the format and difficulty of the actual exam. Read every explanation carefully to strengthen your clinical reasoning and improve your confidence before exam day.

---

10 Free PANRE Practice Exam Questions and Answers

Question 1

A 65-year-old man presents with crushing substernal chest pain that began 30 minutes ago. Which diagnostic test should be performed immediately?

A. Chest MRI

B. Electrocardiogram (ECG)

C. Pulmonary function test

D. Carotid ultrasound

Correct Answer: B. Electrocardiogram (ECG)

Explanation

An ECG is the first diagnostic test for patients with suspected acute coronary syndrome. Prompt identification of ST-segment elevation or other ischemic changes allows rapid treatment and improves patient outcomes.

Question 2

A patient with type 2 diabetes has maintained stable glucose readings for several months. Which laboratory test best reflects long-term glycemic control?

A. Random blood glucose

B. Hemoglobin A1c

C. Serum insulin

D. Urinalysis

Correct Answer: B. Hemoglobin A1c

Explanation

Hemoglobin A1c measures average blood glucose levels over approximately the previous three months and is widely used to evaluate diabetes management and treatment effectiveness.

Question 3

Which organism is responsible for most uncomplicated urinary tract infections in adults?

A. Klebsiella pneumoniae

B. Escherichia coli

C. Pseudomonas aeruginosa

D. Staphylococcus aureus

Correct Answer: B. Escherichia coli

Explanation

Escherichia coli causes the majority of uncomplicated urinary tract infections because it normally resides in the gastrointestinal tract and can easily enter the urinary system.

Question 4

A patient with atrial fibrillation suddenly develops slurred speech and right-sided weakness. What is the most likely diagnosis?

A. Bell's palsy

B. Acute ischemic stroke

C. Migraine

D. Multiple sclerosis

Correct Answer: B. Acute ischemic stroke

Explanation

Atrial fibrillation significantly increases the risk of embolic stroke. Sudden neurological deficits should always be treated as a medical emergency requiring immediate evaluation.

Question 5

Which medication class is commonly recommended as initial therapy for uncomplicated hypertension?

A. Digoxin

B. Thiazide diuretics

C. Epinephrine

D. Nitrates

Correct Answer: B. Thiazide diuretics

Explanation

Thiazide diuretics remain one of the recommended first-line treatment options for many adults with uncomplicated hypertension, depending on individual patient characteristics.

Question 6

A patient complains of fever, productive cough, and pleuritic chest pain. Chest radiography reveals a focal infiltrate. Which diagnosis is most likely?

A. Asthma

B. Community-acquired pneumonia

C. Pulmonary edema

D. Bronchiectasis

Correct Answer: B. Community-acquired pneumonia

Explanation

The combination of fever, productive cough, pleuritic chest pain, and a pulmonary infiltrate strongly supports the diagnosis of community-acquired pneumonia.

Question 7

Persistent vomiting commonly results in which electrolyte abnormality?

A. Hypernatremia

B. Hypokalemia

C. Hypercalcemia

D. Hypermagnesemia

Correct Answer: B. Hypokalemia

Explanation

Vomiting causes the loss of potassium and gastric acid, making hypokalemia a common electrolyte disturbance that should be recognized and corrected promptly.

Question 8

Which finding most strongly suggests bacterial meningitis?

A. Gradual headache over several months

B. Fever, neck stiffness, and altered mental status

C. Mild seasonal allergies

D. Isolated dizziness

Correct Answer: B. Fever, neck stiffness, and altered mental status

Explanation

The classic presentation of bacterial meningitis includes fever, nuchal rigidity, altered mental status, and severe headache. Early diagnosis and antibiotic treatment are essential.

Question 9

Which preventive measure is recommended annually for most adults?

A. Tetanus vaccine

B. Influenza vaccination

C. Hepatitis A vaccine

D. Yellow fever vaccine

Correct Answer: B. Influenza vaccination

Explanation

Annual influenza vaccination helps reduce illness, hospitalization, and complications associated with seasonal influenza and is recommended for most adults.

Question 10

Which symptom is most characteristic of an acute exacerbation of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)?

A. Improved exercise tolerance

B. Increased dyspnea and sputum production

C. Bradycardia without respiratory symptoms

D. Isolated hypertension

Correct Answer: B. Increased dyspnea and sputum production

Explanation

An acute COPD exacerbation is typically characterized by worsening shortness of breath, increased sputum volume, and changes in sputum color or consistency.

Premium PANRE Practice Exam – 1000+ Questions & Detailed Explanations

Want to maximize your chances of passing the PANRE?

Our **Premium PANRE Practice Exam** includes everything you need to prepare with confidence.

You'll get:

- **1000+ updated PANRE practice questions**
- Detailed explanations for every answer
- Case-based clinical scenarios
- Questions covering every major body system
- Internal Medicine, Emergency Medicine, Pediatrics, Surgery, Women's Health, Psychiatry, Infectious Disease, Cardiology, Endocrinology, Pulmonology, Dermatology, and more
- Full-length exam simulations
- Unlimited self-paced practice
- Instant scoring and performance tracking

Get instant access here:

https://www.preppool.com/test-prep/panre-practice-exam-questions-and-answers/

PANRE Study Guide

What Is the PANRE Exam?

The **Physician Assistant National Recertifying Examination (PANRE®)** is the recertification examination for certified physician assistants. It evaluates whether PAs continue to demonstrate the broad medical knowledge and clinical decision-making skills needed for safe and effective patient care. Candidates can meet the recertification requirement through the traditional PANRE or the longitudinal assessment option (PANRE-LA), with both using the same core content blueprint.

How to Pass the PANRE Exam

Passing the PANRE requires more than memorizing facts. The exam emphasizes clinical reasoning, patient management, and evidence-based decision-making.

For the best results:

- Study consistently instead of cramming.
- Review every major body system.
- Practice with realistic case-based questions.
- Understand why each answer is correct.
- Focus extra time on weaker subject areas.
- Complete several timed practice exams before test day.
- Review current clinical guidelines and preventive care recommendations.

Focus Topics

Be sure to review these high-yield topics:

- Cardiovascular Medicine
- Pulmonology
- Gastroenterology
- Endocrinology
- Infectious Diseases
- Emergency Medicine
- Neurology
- Nephrology
- Musculoskeletal Disorders
- Dermatology
- Pediatrics
- Women's Health
- Psychiatry
- General Surgery
- Preventive Medicine
- Pharmacology
- Diagnostic Imaging
- Laboratory Interpretation
- Clinical Decision-Making

Common Mistakes to Avoid

Many candidates lose points because they:

- Focus only on their current specialty.
- Memorize facts instead of understanding disease management.
- Miss key details in clinical scenarios.
- Overlook preventive care recommendations.
- Misinterpret laboratory values or imaging findings.
- Spend too much time on difficult questions.
- Skip reviewing explanations after practice sessions.

Why Choose PrepPool Practice Test for PANRE?

PrepPool helps physician assistants prepare efficiently with comprehensive, exam-focused study materials designed around the PANRE content blueprint.

Benefits include:

- **1000+ high-quality practice questions**
- Detailed answer explanations
- Realistic clinical case scenarios
- Coverage of all major exam domains
- Regularly updated question bank
- Mobile-friendly learning
- Unlimited practice attempts
- Ideal for both first-time recertification and experienced PAs

---

Disclaimer

PANRE® is a registered examination administered by the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants (NCCPA). PrepPool is an independent educational resource and is not affiliated with, endorsed by, or sponsored by NCCPA. The practice questions and study materials are developed solely for educational and exam preparation purposes to help physician assistants strengthen their medical knowledge and prepare for recertification.